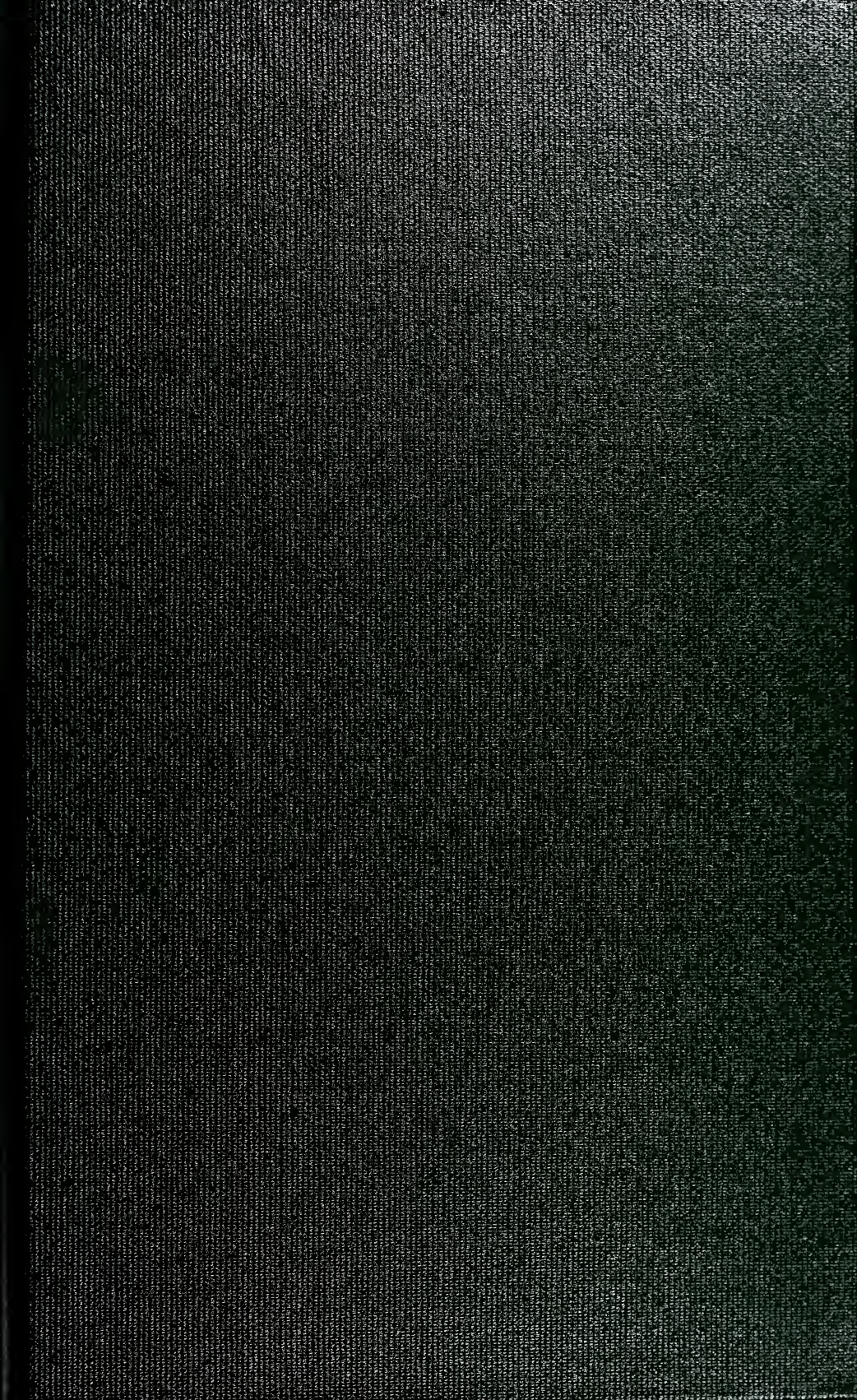
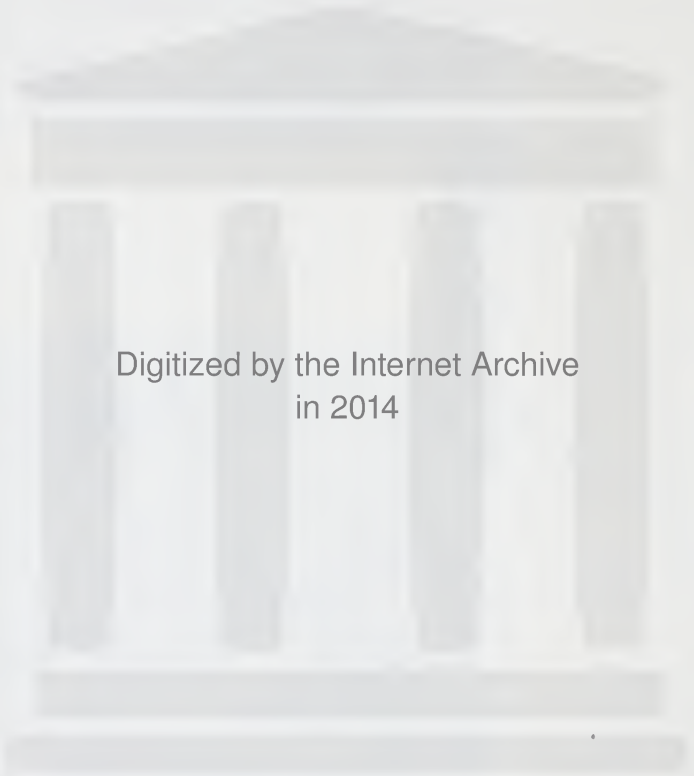






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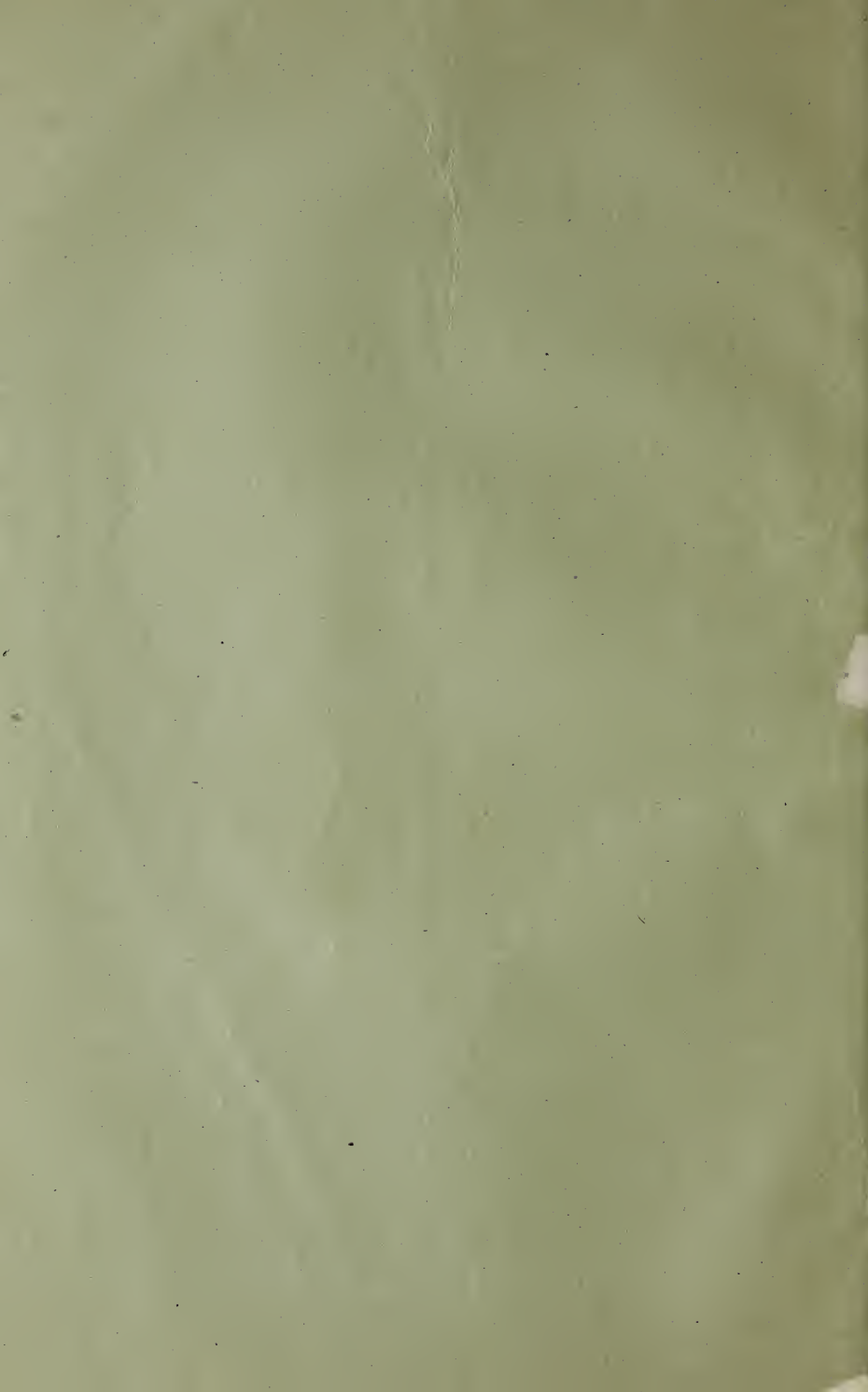
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1884

ANNUAL REPORTS
OF THE
OFFICERS & COMMITTEES
OF THE
TOWN OF TOWNSEND, MASS.,
FOR THE
YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1884.



FITCHBURG :
SENTINEL PRINTING COMPANY, PRINTERS.
1884.



REPORT

—OF THE—

SUPERINTENDING

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

—OF THE—

TOWN OF TOWNSEND,

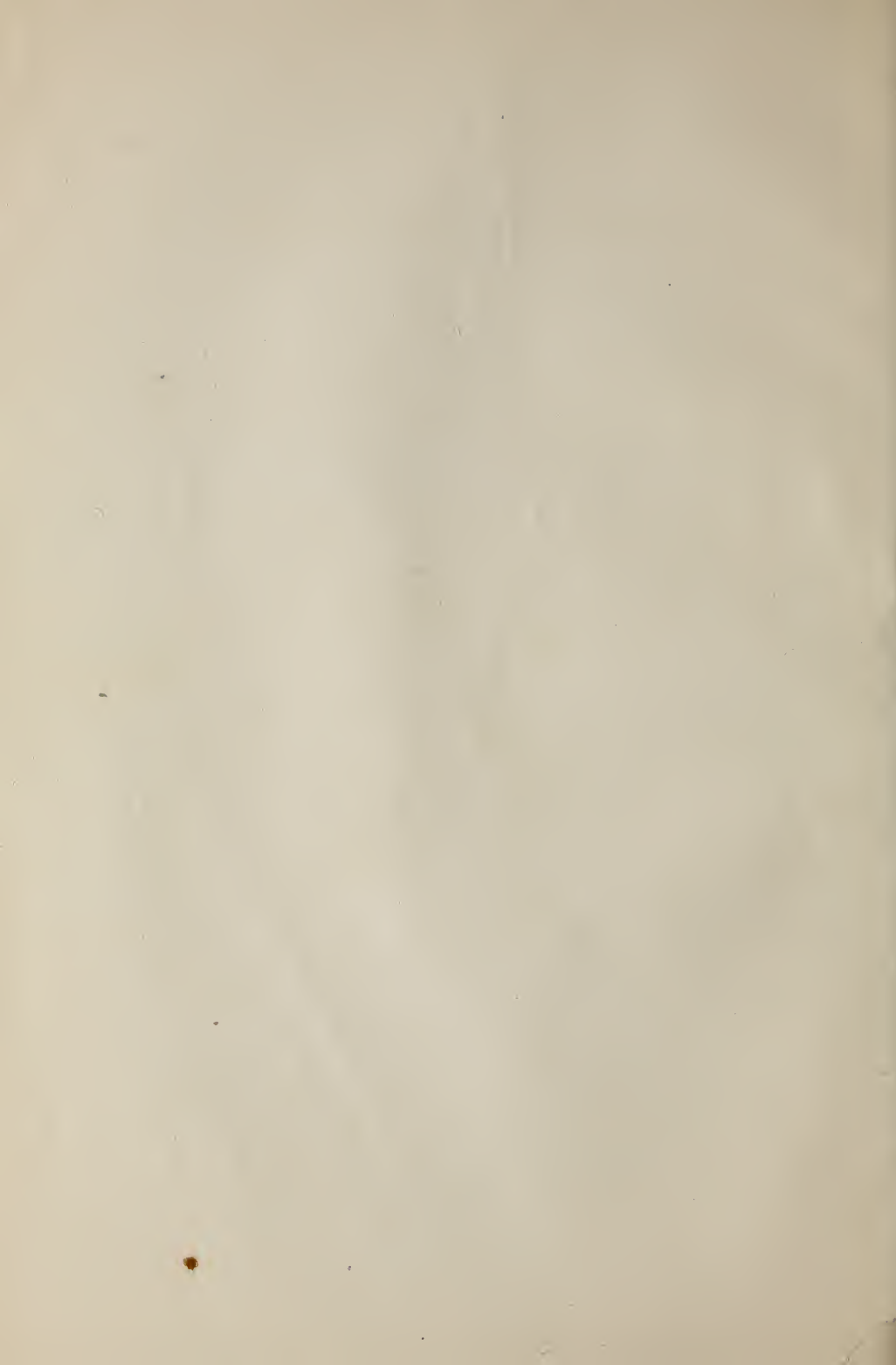
FOR THE YEAR 1883-4.



FITCHBURG :

SENTINEL PRINTING COMPANY, PRINTERS.

1884.



SCHOOL REPORT.

IN compliance with custom and the requirements of the law, the School Committee of Townsend herewith respectfully submit to their fellow citizens the Annual Report for the school year ending March, eighteen hundred and eighty-four.

The town has maintained during the three terms of the year, fourteen schools, and in the Spring term, fifteen. But owing to the decrease in the number of scholars in the Town Farm district, it has not been thought advisable to hold a school in that section of the town the last two terms. The appropriation has been sufficient to continue all the schools thirty weeks. This is none too long.

In some of the Districts, notably the Proctor and Bayberry Hill, the schools are very small, while a few, perhaps, are a little crowded.

Taking the schools as a whole, there has been good work on the part of both teachers and scholars, and a commendable degree of proficiency has been attained. There is a liability quite general, we regret to say, to pass over what may be regarded as fundamental branches, in a superficial manner. Ignorance here must necessarily be a very serious embarrassment to all future attainments. In view of this fact, special pains have been taken to call the attention of teacher and pupil to the importance of a thorough acquaintance with these branches as the only adequate basis for an accurate and satisfactory knowledge of those which are higher.

SCHOOL BUILDINGS.

The enterprise and thrift of a town are largely determined by its school houses. The purposes of education cannot be fully secured unless such buildings are properly constructed and adequately furnished, so as to be made comfortable, convenient and attractive. The school house of half a century and more ago, with its low, dingy ceiling, its hard and uncom-

fortable seats usually arranged on three sides of the room, and generally so crowded with occupants as to bring each other into close proximity with his neighbor, is no more adapted to our present educational needs than the methods then pursued are adapted to the wants and demands of this progressive age in which we live.

Our school rooms in the three villages are pleasant and cheerful and well adapted to the purpose of their construction, with the single but serious exception of ventilation, for the only method of ventilation is by raising and lowering the windows, so that those in the immediate vicinity are very liable to take cold.

Where this is not done, the air soon becomes vitiated by being breathed and re-breathed, laying the foundation for lung diseases. Pure air is absolutely essential to a healthy body and a clear, vigorous mind. In most school rooms we get it, but not in all.

Some of our school buildings are not in as good condition, interiorly, as they ought to be. A few of them need re-plastering and painting, and other repairs, which could be done at a small outlay, so that they would be rendered much more pleasant and cheerful for both teacher and scholar.

ABSENTEEISM.

One of the greatest obstacles with which we have to contend is that of irregularity of attendance. If it affected only those scholars who are absent more or less during the term, the evil would be bad enough, but its influence is felt by others and is a serious drawback to the highest progress of the school. It is much more common, uniformly so, in some districts than in others. After making all due allowances for long distances, sicknesses, inclement weather, and bad walking, it is still a fact that there are many more absences than are necessary. To a great extent both the responsibility and remedy are with the parents. For however pleasant and inviting the school-room, however excellent the teachers, and however faithful the supervision, these in themselves are not a sufficient force to produce regular attendance. There must be a power back of them all, and that power rests almost wholly with the parents. We have reason to suppose that in a few cases, children have been kept at home one or two days in a week, to work. From the standpoint of the parents, this may seem a necessity; but to us it appears not only unnec-

essary, but the poorest kind of economy, to say nothing of the injustice done to their children in withholding from them, in part, the opportunities for securing an education. An examination of the Registers shows, also, that some parents do not send their children till the second or third week after the term begins and in some cases take them out of school a week or two before the close.

This, also, is an unwise thing ; and there would be some slight ground for it, perhaps, if we had thirty-six weeks schooling in the year, as in many towns, instead of but thirty at most, and some years still less. The town grants to all her children of school age, and urges them to use the rights and privileges of education. A certain amount of money is annually appropriated for this purpose, and it cannot be used for any other.

We all share alike, or are supposed to, in contributing to this amount ; and the best facilities possible are provided for the educational training of our boys and girls, to fit them to become useful members of society, and to act well their part in every sphere of life. Therefore it is the duty of all parents and others who are interested in the efficiency of our schools, to see that all the children avail themselves of the full benefits which are held out to them.

TEACHERS.

Education does not consist merely in knowing. An educated person is not one who has a certain amount of knowledge, but one who has been trained to do certain things. This is true of the faculties of the mind and body alike, and both are said to be educated when they are able to do what they are made to do. If you wish to make a good mechanic of your son, you would not put him under the training of a bungling workman. If you propose to make a superior musician of your child, you will endeavor to secure the services of the best instructor possible. So the education, the mental training of your child ought not to be intrusted to unskillful and incompetent hands. In the selection of teachers to fill the various schools, the committee have done the best they could. In the main, they have been well qualified, faithful in their work, good disciplinarians, and have met with a satisfactory degree of success. The exceptions to this statement have been so few and slight as to demand no special mention.

It has been our aim to retain the services of teachers who have been

in charge of our schools one or more terms, provided that in our judgment they were fully competent for the position. The wisdom of this policy cannot be questioned ; for there is always more less risk in hiring new teachers of whose qualifications we know nothing except from their examinations and the character of their credentials. A good teacher must have an acquaintance with the temperament and capabilities of her scholars. A lack of this knowledge will put her and them at great disadvantage. She must have a good knowledge of human nature, in its different phases.

The school is really a little world in miniature. Here are to be found representatives of almost every variety of character. Here are scholars with faculties and dispositions as various as the shades of their complexion, and as diversified as their expression of countenance—the mild and the boisterous—the modest and the domineering—the obedient and the refractor—the industrious and the indolent. To govern, direct and develop this world of mind, so diversified in its mental and moral structure, requires a keen power of insight into human nature, and the use of a variety of methods. It is a truism to say that all teachers have not these qualifications.

Some who have, through mental qualifications and a tact to impart knowledge, are not good disciplinarians ; and others who have a superior tact for governing, are not always the best qualified in other respects. It has been our endeavor to obtain and retain those teachers in whom both of these elements are combined.

HIGH SCHOOL.

The first graduating class exercises in connection with our High School took place in June last. The graduating class numbered ten—six ladies, and four gentlemen. The exercises were of a very pleasant character, and much enjoyed by the large number present. The school in the Fall Term was a little over-crowded, owing to the fact that over twenty applicants for admission passed the required examination, although the standard for admission was higher than ever before. The whole number in the school was forty-eight—a number too large for one teacher to manage, in order to do justice to himself and them. And the difficulty was all the greater as new courses of study had just been revised and introduced. Considering these facts, the committee were satisfied with the progress made.

During the Fall and Winter Terms, twelve of the members of the school dropped out, thus reducing the number so that with proper management we may look for a higher degree of proficiency than has yet been reached.

The committee, not fully satisfied with the requirements for admission, have voted to raise the standard still higher. Hereafter all applicants will be required to have completed Grammar, Arithmetic, Geography and History, as no attention will be given to these branches in the High School except a brief review. This we regard as a wise procedure, if we would have our school compare favorably with the High Schools in other places.

For the next year, at least, this raising of the standard for admission will render it impossible for some to pass the requisite examination. But another year spent in a careful and thorough drill of the fundamental branches will be all the better for the scholars themselves and the school.

W. A. NOTTAGE,

Superintendent of Schools.

NUMBER OF SCHOLARS AND AVERAGE ATTENDANCE.

SCHOOLS.	Whole No. Scholars.			Average attendance.		
	Spring.	Fall.	Winter.	Spring.	Fall.	Winter.
High School, at Center,	28	48	40	25	44	34
Grammar School, “	35	30	27	31	26	24
Intermediate “ “	28	25	26	24	20	20
Primary “ “	44	28	26	41	25	22
Grammar School, W. Village	25	20	29	20	16	22
Primary “ “	25	25	33	22	22	27
Joslynville, - -	19	14	18	13	13	15
Bayberry Hill, - -	15	11	7	12	8	5
South Row, - - -	14	18	17	13	16	16
Proctor, - - -	5	5	4	4	4	4
Harbor, - - -	31	16	17	25	14	14
Dixon, - - -	15	15	16	13	13	14
No. 12, - - -	33	24	25	27	18	20
North End, - -	25	28	29	22	23	19

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

SELECTMEN AND TREASURER.

OF THE

TOWN OF TOWNSEND, MASS.,

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1884.



FITCHBURG :

SENTINEL PRINTING COMPANY, PRINTERS.

1884.

SELECTMENS' REPORT.

EXPENSES OF POOR ON TOWN FARM.

Personal Property at Town Farm March 1st, 1883,	\$2,599 91
L. U. Clement, hay,	22 11
A. G. Stickney, land dressing,	25 00
A. M. Adams, grain,	95 10
J. P. Blood, part pay as Superintendent,	125 00
Will be due J. P. Blood, Supt. Town Farm, April 1st, 1884,	225 00
Personal Property at Town Farm March 1st, 1884,	\$2,583 92
J. P. Blood, paid Treasurer stock sold,	120 00

STOCK, HAY AND PROVISIONS AT TOWN FARM,

MARCH 1st, 1884.

2 horses,	1 ½ barrels apples,
9 cows,	67 gallons cider,
3 heifers,	415 lbs pork,
3 swine,	300 lbs. hams and shoulders,
63 fowls,	100 lbs. beef,
1 turkey,	5 gallons boiled cider,
19 ½ tons No. 1 hay,	12 cans fruit,
1 ton No. 2 hay,	2 gallons souse,
1 ½ tons straw,	7 gallons pickles,
1 ½ tons corn fodder,	60 lbs. sausage,
40 basket corn,	110 lbs. lard,
23 bushels rye,	¼ lbs. crackers,
5 ½ bushels beans,	12 lbs. sugar,
2 bags meal,	2 gallons molasses,
150 lbs. shorts.	15 lbs. mince meat,

2 bushels rye meal,	10 lbs. tallow,
112 bushels potatoes,	15 lbs. butter,
7 bushels mangolds,	45 gallons vinegar,
1 bushel onions,	1 barrel flour.
2 bushels beets,	

PAUPERS OFF TOWN FARM.

M. Gleason, coffin for George Hodgman, 1880,	\$14 00
H. F. Gleason, M. D., attendance Mrs. Hellean,	15 00
Mrs. Patrick Buckley, support Michael Ryan,	57 00
L. G. Chandler, M. D., attendance Michael Ryan,	2 00
Orders drawn aid Frank Warren's family,	40 25
Daniel Mellen, aid,	3 50
Orders drawn, aid to and burial of Milly Russell	33 90
G. H. Baldwin, aid to Clarabell Richardson,	2 16
G. H. Baldwin, aid to Joel Jenkins,	3 00
M. Gleason, coffin, robe, &c. for William Harris,	17 25
Orders drawn support and burial Alanson T. Stearns,	24 25
“ “ aid to Charles H. Woodard,	4 50
“ “ support Hannah Bills,	3 00
“ “ “ Reuben Garrett,	10 00
“ “ aid to Charles Davis,	13 00
“ “ aid to John Fitzsimmons,	2 95
Abbie H. F. Taft, board and care Susan Proctor,	33 00
A. G. Stearns, removing Jane Brown from Boston to Almshouse,	6 25
A. G. Stearns, journey to Amherst and Hollis, in case of Susan Proctor,	7 00
A. G. Stearns, cash paid counsel case Susan Proctor,	3 50
A. G. Stearns, time and cash paid in pauper cases,	25 50
Orders drawn support Bryant Mallan and family, and burial Bryant Mallan,	183 12
	\$504 13

CR.

Due from Estate of G. Hodgman,	\$14 00
Rec'd from town of Dedham, acct. M. Ryan,	59 00
Due from town of Waltham, acct. Joel Jenkins,	3 00

Due from Commonwealth, acct. A. T. Stearns,	24 25	
Rec'd of town of Dana, acct. C. H. Woodard,	4 50	
Rec'd of town of Ashby, acct. Hannah Bills.	3 00	
Due from Commonwealth, acct. J. Fitzsimmons,	2 95	
Rec'd on bond of M. A. Mallan, support of B. Mallan and family,	183 12	
Due from Mr. Ramsdell, services Mrs. Warren	40 00	
		\$333 82
		\$170 31

EXPENSES OF CHARLES DAVIS, PAUPER CASE.

Town of Ashburnham vs. Townsend.

Paid Verry & Gaskill, counsel, fees,	\$125 02	
F. P. Goulding, counsel, fees,	95 00	
Town of Ashburnham, cost of court and witnesses,	72 87	
Town of Townsend, cost of " "	95 50	
Time and cash preparation of case,	50 58	
		\$438 97

OLD CONTRACTS.

Paid Parks & Carpenter, bal. due on aqueduct,	
Town Farm,	8 25
L. W. Spaulding, wood, South Row School,	5 11
C. L. Robbins, bal. due Supt. Town Farm,	270 93
Sentinel Printing Co., printing Town Reports,	22 25
A. M. Adams, Fire Department,	400 00
A. J. Shattuck, Poll Tax of Firemen, (Squannicook Engine Co.)	17 60
J. A. Wilson, Fire Department, (Eclipse Eng.)	60 80
W. P. Taylor, lumber, hearse house,	12 79
O. Proctor, carrying scholars to school,	6 00
Town of Ashburnham, aid to Chas. Davis, 1881,	62 00
" " " " " 1882,	38 00
J. A. Dixon, wood to school house No. 1,	30 00
H. B. Hildreth, part pay collecting taxes, 1881,	15 00
" " " " " 1882,	25 00

Paid Thomas Bixby, breaking snow paths,	6 20
J. A. Dixon, " " "	5 50
Spaulding Bros., working on highway,	25 00
C. W. Hildreth, cash paid int. on Town notes,	408 93

\$1,434 36

INCIDENTAL EXPENSES.

Paid A. F. Stickney, printing town warrants,	\$4 00
Chas. Fuller, painting and hanging blinds on hearse house,	4 50
" " " hearse house,	10 68
Geo. F. Lawton & Son, coal for engine house,	26 88
C. W. Hildreth blinds for hearse house,	5 63
C. W. Hildreth, cash paid note book,	5 50
C. W. Hildreth, cash paid receipt book, postage & Stationery,	3 50
S. G. Magill, removing town Library and fitting room,	6 10
S. J. Stearns, work in Cemetery, Townsend Centre,	3 00
S. A. Tyler, stone posts and setting in Cemetery,	4 00
J. P. Hildreth, work in Cemetery,	5 25
J. P. Hildreth, material for gates, and making same,	8 82
J. P. Hildreth, returning deaths,	5 25
L. Stearns, cash paid insurance on school house No. 5,	4 00
Town of Ashby, tax,	1 30
F. C. Burt, stove, funnel and grate for Engine House at Townsend Centre,	27 55
A. G. Stearns, cash paid recording Mallon deed,	75
L. G. Chandler, M. D., returning births,	3 00
B. F. Morse, services as Constable,	10 00
A. G. Stearns, stone posts for bounds,	2 10
F. C. Burt, repairs of, and new funnel for Seminary hall,	4 16
H. B. Hildreth, cash for Collector's book,	1 00
Wm. H. Coffey, cash for cutting wood for Engine House,	50
A. M. Adams, cash for wood for Engine House,	2 00
George L. Eastman, Treas. M. E. Church, rent,	53 30
A. K. Tyler, stationery and postage,	2 37
W. A. Nottage, stationery, postage acct. schools,	3 12
W. A. Nottage, Superintendent of Schools,	100 00
H. B. Hildreth, part pay collecting taxes, 1883,	75 00
C. W. Hildreth, Town Treasurer,	50 00

Paid C. W. Hildreth, receipt book, postage, etc.,	3 50
F. A. Worcester, retainer, advice, etc.,	30 00
W. P. Taylor, dog license blanks,	2 00
W. P. Taylor, express and postage,	1 42
W. P. Taylor, returning births, marriages and deaths,	30 00
W. P. Taylor, services as Town Clerk,	10 00
A. G. Stearns, cash for postage,	1 44
A. G. Stearns, copying valuation book for State,	13 00
A. K. Tyler, copying valuation book for State,	6 50
G. H. Baldwin, copying valuation book for State,	6 50
W. H. Coffey, services as Police, Memorial Day,	2 50
J. P. Hildreth, work in Cemetery,	2 75
A. G. Stearns, services as Selectman, Assessor and Overseer of the Poor,	145 00
A. K. Tyler, services as Selectman, Assessor and Overseer of the Poor,	130 00
G. H. Baldwin, services as Selectman, Assessor and Overseer of the Poor,	110 00
	\$927 87

EXPENSES OF HIGHWAYS, SCHOOLS, &c.

In the repairs of highways, all district lines have been ignored, and the roads mainly repaired under the direction of the following persons :

Granville Wood,	Levi Farrar,
D. O. Evans,	J. L. Jennerson,
Thomas Bixby,	J. P. Blood,
Horace Searles,	Jas. A. Dixon,
A. K. Tyler,	A. G. Stearns.

We have expended the sum of	\$1,377 88
Paid for land bought of J. B. Graham,	20 00
bridge plank,	332 37
repairs on Depot street, by vote of town,	78 50
new street at Depot, by vote of town,	157 30
breaking snow paths,	62 90
W. E. Johnson, Pennock road machine,	150 00
W. Fessenden & Son, widening road near G. Eastman's,	54 62

Paid W. Fessenden & Son, repairs front of Engine house,	29 37
for schools,	3,627 73
State Aid,	568 50
Military Aid,	243 00
H. F. Greene, Treas. Memorial Association,	75 00
repairs of school houses,	124 48
J. L. Chandler, cash for library books and librarian,	155 00
C. W. Hildreth, interest on Town Notes,	376 48
W. A. Nottage, Supt., cash for school books,	430 97
H. C. Sherwin and others, prosecution of liquor cases,	121 60
Worcester Lunatic Hospital, case Wm. Farnsworth,	120 06

CR.

Due from State, State Aid,	\$568 50
from State, Military Aid,	121 50
bridge plank on hand,	332 37
cash paid Treasurer for school books,	251 00
school books on hand,	165 45
from D. O. Evans, Guardian W. Farnsworth,	120 06

ABATEMENT OF TAXES.

Albert Adams, poll tax refunded,	\$1 85
M. A. & S. A. S. Craig, abatement of Bank tax for 1882,	11 50
H. B. Hildreth, abatement of taxes in the list of 1881,	36 27
E. R. Kilburn, error in tax, 1883,	83

\$50 45

MONEY RAISED BY VOTE OF TOWN MARCH 12, 1883.

For Schools,	\$3,500 00
Highways,	1,800 00
Incidentals,	800 00
Old Debt and Interest,	2,500 00
Memorial Day,	75 00
Carrying Scholars,	50 00
Fire Department,	400 00
Support of Paupers,	800 00
Library,	155 00
Enforcement of Liquor Law,	100 00

State Tax,	\$975 00
County Tax,	433 41
	\$1,408 41

Number of Polls,	541
Tax on each Poll,	\$1.85

Valuation of Personal Estate,	\$218,305 00
“ Real Estate,	802,447 00
	\$1,020,752 00

Rate per \$1,000, \$11.00

Number of dwelling houses,	500
“ cows,	429
“ horses,	394
“ sheep,	21
“ acres of land,	19,478

RECAPITULATION.

Notes against the Town,	\$14,200 75
Due for interest on Town Notes March 1, 1884,	332 76
Printing Reports,	30 00
Superintendent Town Farm April 1st, 1884,	225 00
Fire Department, May 1st, 1884,	400 00
	\$15,188 51

To meet which the Town has the following Assets:

Amos E. Brown place,	\$300 00
Due State Aid,	673 50
Due Military Aid,	121 50
School Books in Superintendent's hands,	165 45
Cash in Superintendent's hands,	21 22
Due for School Books collectible,	13 00
There is in hands of School Committee on deposit in Townsend Bank,	17 36
Pauper Accounts due the Town,	81 20
Due from Estate of William Farnsworth,	146 56
Bridge Plank on hand,	482 00
Bal. cash in hands of H. B. Hildreth, Coll. 1881,	61 06
" " " " " " 1882,	366 97
" " " " " " 1883,	1,420 67
Cash in Treasurer's hands March 1st, 1884,	2,277 85

\$6,148 34

Balance against the Town March 1st, 1884, \$9,040 17

Town Debt, March 1st, 1883, \$11,292 52

Debt reduced, \$2,252 35

Debt and Interest paid, \$3,037 76

A. G. STEARNS,	}	<i>Selectmen, Assessors, and Overseers of the Poor</i>
A. K. TYLER,		
G. H. BALDWIN,		

TREASURER'S REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1884.

Balance from last report,	\$4684 04
Received from County Treasurer, dog license for 1882,	133 92
“ “ S. S. Haynes, money overdrawn for Teachers,	27 00
“ “ J. P. Hildreth for clapboards,	75
“ “ David Cram for school books,	251 00
“ “ State Treasurer, Corporation Tax,	329 46
“ “ State Treasurer, National Bank Tax,	300 51
“ “ State Treasurer, State Aid,	672 00
“ “ State Treasurer, Relief for Indigent Soldiers and Sailors,	118 50
“ “ State Treasurer for State Paupers,	30 00
“ “ State Treasurer, Income of School Fund,	183 41
“ “ North Star Lodge, rent of hall,	10 00
“ “ J. P. Hildreth, lot in cemetery,	50
“ “ S. N. Barrett, use of scraper,	4 00
“ “ Rent of Brown house,	10 00
“ “ Town of Dedham, aid furnished Michael Ryan,	59 00
“ “ W. A. Nottage for school books,	4 50
“ “ Rent of West Townsend hall,	3 00
“ “ Town of Dana, aid furnished C. H. Woodard,	4 50
“ “ Town of Ashby, aid furnished Hannah Bills,	12 30
“ “ County Treasurer, dog license for 1883,	132 11
“ “ State pauper,	17 00
“ “ Town of Ashby for bridge plank,	73 70
“ “ Stock from Town Farm,	120 00
“ “ S. S. Haynes for school books,	19 26
“ “ State pauper,	7 50
“ “ H. B. Hildreth, Collector, 1881,	472 00
“ “ H. B. Hildreth, Collector, 1882,	1514 00
“ “ H. B. Hildreth, Collector, 1883,	10875 00
“ “ Money borrowed,	4250 00

\$24318 96

Paid State Treasurer, State Tax,	\$975 00
“ State Treasurer, National Bank Tax,	454 11
“ Notes,	8850 00
“ Town Orders,	11762 00
March 1st. Balance on hand,	2277 85
	\$24318 96

Balance due per last report from H. B. Hildreth, Col., 1881,	533 06
He has paid the Treasurer,	472 00

Leaving a balance due the Town from him, \$61 06

Balance due per last report from H. B. Hildreth, Col., 1882,	\$1880 97
He has paid the Treasurer,	1514 00

Leaving balance due the Town from him, \$366 97

There was committed to H. B. Hildreth, Col., 1883,	\$12729 08
--	------------

He has paid the Treasurer,	\$10875 00
“ “ County Tax,	433 41
	\$11308 41

Leaving balance due the Town from him, 1883, \$1420 67

C. W. HILDRETH,

Treasurer, Town of Townsend.

March 1st, 1884.

We have examined the above account and find it correctly cast and properly vouched.

A. M. ADAMS, } *Finance*
 B. F. LEWIS, } *Committee.*

LIST OF BIRTHS IN TOWNSEND IN THE YEAR 1883.

- January 2, son to J. A. and E. M. Arlin.
January 10, daughter to C. K. and M. Kelley.
February 1, son to W. and M. J. Doolin.
February 18, son to W. T. and D. A. Wells.
February 20, daughter to E. A. and E. A. Wilder.
March 3, son to A. D. and T. A. Fessenden.
March 3, son to J. and M. Coughlin.
March 8, son to W. E. and A. F. Burt.
March 9, son to L. P. and N. S. Hill.
April 14, daughter to G. F. and N. F. Lawton.
April 15, son to F. S. and L. Bickford.
April 19, daughter to W. and M. J. Sherin.
May 6, son to T. and E. J. Copeland.
May 6, daughter to C. R. F. and H. M. Warner.
June 8, daughter to W. W. and M. E. Bentley.
June 12, daughter to G. H. and S. F. Thompson.
July 19, son to E. N. and G. N. Taylor.
August 8, daughter to D. and C. Dacey.
August 9, daughter to J. and A. Tibo.
August 21, daughter to G. A. and E. R. Wilder.
September 8, son to M. and M. O'Connors.
September 17, son to G. and M. A. Atwater.
September 17, daughter to B. and H. M. Laws.
October 1, daughter to J. W. and A. F. Eastman.
October 5, daughter to H. O. and J. Hazzard.
October 9, son to G. H. and H. H. Powers.
October 27, son to M. and M. Welch.
November 2, daughter to S. A. and N. A. Tyler.
November 9, son to A. L. and S. M. Stearns.
November 18, son to T. and H. Coffey.

LIST OF MARRIAGES IN TOWNSEND, IN 1883.

February 1,	William Doolan, Mary J. Elliott,	Athol. Townsend.
February 8,	George W. Brown, Christie McKenzie,	Townsend. Brookline.
February 11,	Charles A. Davis, Annie Flagg,	Shirley. Mason, N. H.
March 8,	Newton Elliott, Hattie Johnson,	Townsend, "
April 1,	Joseph W. Conway, Catherine M. Sullivan,	Boston. Townsend.
May 9,	Edward E. Warren, Annie J. Dix,	Townsend. "
June 5,	F. J. Knight, M. L. Fletcher,	Townsend. "
June 7,	F. A. Patch, Alice Wilson,	Athol. Townsend.
July 1,	A. F. Barrett, H. M. Robbins,	Mason, N. H. Mason, N. H.
August 19,	Louis Schwrover, Elnora Prescott,	Newton. Westford.
August 29,	C. W. Shattuck, Abbie M. Bush,	Pepperell. Townsend.
September 4,	H. A. R. Ball, Lillian V. Dockham,	Milford. Townsend.
October 29,	W. E. Cowdry, B. A. Forbush,	Townsend. Hubbardston.
November 6,	Alfred W. Brown, Ellen M. Goldsmith,	Mason, N. H. Wilton, N. H.
November 7,	W. A. Russell, N. B. Jones,	Boston. Townsend.
November 8,	H. W. Lawrence, M. A. Adams,	Townsend. Mason, N. H.

LIST OF DEATHS IN TOWNSEND IN 1883.

January 10,	Orpha Kilburn,	82	years,	0	mos.	29	days.
" 14,	Joseph Kilburn,	88	"	4	"	14	"
February 14,	Susan B. Farwell,	85	"	6	"	1	"
March 5,	William B. Richards,	51	"	0	"	0	"
March 5,	Samuel D. Hoyt,	56	"	9	"	19	"
March 15,	Katherine P. Spaulding,	58	"	10	"	19	"
March 15,	Harriett L. Jenkins,	82	"	6	"	4	"
March 23,	Frederic L. Hildreth,	22	"	4	"	17	"
April 10,	Bryant Mellen,	—	"	—	"	—	"
April 11,	Margaret Greeley,	67	"	10	"	14	"
April 25,	Alvia A. Gould,	35	"	2	"	14	"
May 1,	Joseph Searles,	76	"	3	"	25	"
May 3,	Marquis L. Holden,	57	"	7	"	8	"
May 24,	Elizabeth R. B. Pierce,	78	"	11	"	3	"
May 29,	Andrew Searles,	73	"	8	"	25	"
June 2,	George E. Richards,	16	"	4	"	23	"
June 3,	Milley Russell,	94	"	10	"	21	"
June 4,	Fanny Huggins,	58	"	7	"	0	"
June 18,	Horace L. Peckham, Jr.	18	"	2	"	10	"
July 18,	Mary E. Stevens,	32	"	0	"	12	"
July 18,	Willie A. Burt,	0	"	4	"	10	"
July 27,	Walter S. Copeland,	0	"	2	"	21	"
August 4,	Ai Lester Burgess,	0	"	8	"	10	"
August 14,	Nancy Martin,	66	"	9	"	12	"
August 25,	Louise Drinkwine,	53	"	0	"	0	"
August 26,	Lefy Hart,	82	"	2	"	29	"
Septemb. 20,	William Craig,	75	"	4	"	1	"
October 2,	William Harris,	61	"	5	"	14	"
October 7,	Charles S. Warner,	18	"	1	"	22	"
Novem. 26,	Fred M. Atwater,	0	"	2	"	14	"
December 8,	Anna M. Buckley,	23	"	2	"	8	"
December 9,	William Taylor,	61	"	1	"	18	"
Decemb. 14,	Alanson T. Stearns,	45	"	0	"	0	"
Decemb. 26,	Nellie A. Tyler,	25	"	8	"	2	"
Decemb. 27,	Hannah Bills,	91	"	2	"	11	"

WILLIAM P. TAYLOR,
Town Clerk.

REPORT OF LIBRARY COMMITTEE.

To the Board of School Committee of the Town of Townsend:

The Library Committee herewith respectfully submits its report to you, and through you to the inhabitants of the town.

Amount received from cards and fines,	\$23 83	
Amount brought over from 1883,	21 78	
		45 61
Cash paid for stationery and incidentals,	\$8 45	
“ “ “ stove,	12 00	
“ “ “ labor,	2 90	
“ “ “ wood,	2 50	
“ “ Library Committee for books,	2 07	
		27 92

Cash on hand Feb. 25, 1884,	\$17 69
Number of readers during the year,	373
Number of new books added,	98

Mr. Eugene Flagg having resigned the position of Librarian, Miss Lilla Larkin received the appointment from the committee to whom the matter was referred. The Committee having secured a room in the Engine building, it was fitted up and seems admirably adapted in every way for the use of the Library.

The books have been classified and catalogued in a thorough manner, and the manuscript is now in the hands of the printer; we hope to present to the Town in a short time a Catalogue which will exhibit the titles of the books and the names of the authors; also divided and classified into such subjects as they may treat. It is the wish of the committee to recognize the public desires in the selection of the books, and we do not expect to mould public taste, but carefully direct attention toward that class of literature which may not merely amuse, but instruct. A high authority in such matters says: "What every good book needs is a teacher behind it. Sometimes this teacher may be another book, but better still, a living, personal influence, constant and active, until judgment, matured by age, shall unerringly direct to the best fields of literature." The committee believe they have gratifying evidence that the lower forms of sensational fiction are not in such demand as a few years ago. Works of History, Travel, Biography, and even Scientific Character, are now given in such form that they hold the attention and interest, as well as the evanescent novel of the day, and educate the taste for something better.

The Public Library has its mission, as well as the school, the press, the pulpit or the lecture room, and it cannot be put aside as a secondary matter; for it is a silent but powerful factor in the well-being of the community, and reflects to a degree the character of the community itself.

Respectfully,
 LUTHER G. CHANDLER, *Chairman Library Com.*



1/28/2011

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